1. A method for increasing an immune response in an animal, comprising administering a compound which binds to a C-type lectin on the surface of a dendritic cell, with the proviso that the C-type lectin is not the DEC-205 receptor.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said animal is a mammal.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein said mammal is a human.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein an antigen is bound to said compound.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein said antigen is bound to said compound by a) covalent binding, b) ligand-ligand interaction, c) complexing, d) ligation, or e) expression of a fusion protein comprising said antigen and said compound.

6. The method of claim 4 wherein said antigen is a cancer antigen.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein said method generates an immune response against tumor cells containing or expressing said cancer antigen.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of a mannose carbohydrate, a fucose carbohydrate, a plant lectin, an antibiotic, a sugar, a protein, and an antibody.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein said mannose carbohydrate is mannan or D-mannose.

10. The method of claim 8 wherein said fucose carbohydrate is L-fucose.

11. The method of claim 8 wherein said plant lectin is concanavalin A.

12. The method of claim 8 wherein said antibiotic is pradimicin A.

13. The method of claim 8 wherein said sugar is selected from the group consisting of N-acetyl-D-glucosamine and galactose.

14. The method of claim 8 wherein said protein is selected from the group consisting of gp120, analogs of gp120 and fragments of gp120.

15. The method of claim 1 wherein said C-type lectin is a protein with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

16. The method of claim 1 wherein said C-type lectin is a protein with an amino acid sequence at least 80% homologous to SEQ ID NO:2.

17. The method of claim 1 wherein said C-type lectin is a protein with an amino acid sequence at least 90% homologous to SEQ ID NO:2.

18. The method of claim 8 wherein said antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

19. The method of claim 8 wherein said antibody binds a protein of SEQ ID NO:2.

20. The method of claim 8 wherein said antibody binds a protein with an amino acid sequence at least 80% homologous to SEQ ID NO:2.

21. The method of claim 8 wherein said antibody binds a protein with an amino acid sequence at least 90% homologous to SEQ ID NO:2.

22. The method of claim 8 wherein said antibody is selected from the group consisting of AZN-D1 and AZN-D2.

23. A method for generating an immune response against tumor cells in an animal, the method comprising administering a compound which binds to a C-type lectin on the

surface of the dendritic cell, the compound having at least a portion of a cancer antigen attached thereto.